

Horseman's future — decision tonight



TONY HORSEMAN
... changed mind.

TONY Horseman (35), who has become a Wycombe Wanderers legend during his 15 years playing career with them, could be making a shock departure from Loakes Park this week. The decision as to whether Horseman has a future with the Blues will be made tonight (Tuesday).

This news comes as a major surprise to the loyal Wycombe fans, with whom he has such a great rapport over his long and successful career.

He knocked in goals with machine like regularity last season and started the new season in the same sort of form. He scored two goals for the Blues in the opening part of the season, but then came the Enfield match, during which he received a black eye and bruised ribs.

These injuries kept him out of the game for a fortnight — and he only returned to the Blues line-up for their friendly match with Burnham on Thursday.

After the match he told new manager Ted Powell that he wasn't enjoying his football and wanted to be released from his contract.

Powell pondered the question for a couple of days but then after Saturday's match against Bishops Stortford, told Horseman that the club would let him go.

But that wasn't the end of the affair, for five minutes later Horseman told Powell that he had changed his mind and was willing to stay. This placed the manager in a dilemma and he

decided to wait until tonight before announcing the decision.

However Powell has released the former Dunstable mid-field player Alan Davies, who joined Wycombe at the start of the season. Powell explained his decision by saying, "I have got too many players in my squad and Alan's form has been a little disappointing."

Davies, (26), who had five years as a youngster with Queens Park Rangers, had spells with Brentford, Guildford, Bedford and Barnet before going to Dunstable. Davies, the brother-in-law of Watford boss Mike Keen, played his last game on Saturday when he received a blow in the face from Stortford centre-half Vic Clarke, who was subsequently sent off.

Should Horseman join Davies on the transfer list, it will be the end of an era during which Horseman has scored more than 500 goals in nearly 1,000 games since joining the club in 1961.

But Wycombe fans will be hoping that a solution can be found, as it was in 1972 when Horseman's decision to retire was changed after three weeks. This time, however, his fate is in the hands of others.

There's brighter news of former Wycombe Wanderer Steve Perrin who scored one goal and made another on his Division Three debut for Crystal Palace against Mansfield on Saturday. Palace won the match 2-0 and manager Terry Venables praised Perrin's display after the match.